

BRIEFING—INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS BY THE CIA

Committee on National Security: Subcommittee on Military Procurement and the Subcommittee on Research and Development met in executive session to receive a joint briefing on intelligence assessments by the CIA. The Subcommittees were briefed by representatives of the CIA.

MEDICARE HMO PAYMENT POLICIES

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on Medicare HMO Payment Policies. Testimony was heard from Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director, Budget Analysis, CBO; Gail R. Wilensky, Chair, Physician Payment Review Commission; Joseph Newhouse, Chairman, Prospective Payment Assessment Commission; William J. Scanlon, Director, Health Systems Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

ANNUAL REPORT—IRS TAXPAYER ADVOCATE

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing on the Annual Report of the IRS Taxpayer Advocate. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the IRS, Department of the Treasury: Lee R. Monks, Taxpayer Advocate; Fran Romano, Connecticut/Rhode Island District; Tom George, South Texas District; Louis Romito, Pennsylvania District-Pittsburg; Elayne M. Goldstein, Midwest District; and Jeanne Williams, North Florida District, all District Taxpayer Advocates.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1997

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, to hold hearings to examine the impact of capital gains taxes on farmers, 10 a.m., SD-192.

Committee on Armed Services, to continue hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, 2 p.m., SR-222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, to hold hearings to review the Federal Reserve's monetary policy report to Congress, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management, to continue hearings on the proposed Public Land Management Responsibility and Accountability Restoration Act, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works, Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for pro-

grams of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, 9:30 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Foreign Relations, Subcommittee on International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion, to hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Agency for International Development (AID), 2 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Labor and Human Resources, business meeting, to consider pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Small Business, to hold hearings on the President's budget request for fiscal year 1998 for the Small Business Administration, 9:30 a.m., SR-428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, to hold hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 1998 for veterans programs, 2 p.m., SR-418.

Committee on Indian Affairs, to hold hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 1998 for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service, 9:30 a.m., SR-485.

Select Committee on Intelligence, to hold closed hearings on intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Forestry, Resource Conservation, and Research, hearing to review the USDA's final regulation on the Conservation Reserve Program, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, on the Secretary of Agriculture, 1 p.m., 2362A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary, on Inspector General for the Department of Justice, 11 a.m., and on the Legal Services Corporation, 2 p.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Interior, on the Secretary of the Interior, 10 a.m., and 1:30 p.m., B-308 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, on the Director, NIH, 10 a.m., on the National Cancer Institute and the National Eye Institute, 1:30 p.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security, on the fiscal year 1998 Defense Budget, 9:30 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Transportation, on Members of Congress and public witnesses, 9:30 a.m., and 1 p.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government, on the Office of Inspector General, Department of the Treasury, 10 a.m., and on the Secret Service, 2 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies, on NASA, 11 a.m., and 2 p.m., H-143 Capitol.

Committee on Banking and Financial Services, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, hearing on issues currently facing the Credit Union Industry, 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, hearing and markup of the following bills: H.R. 649, Department of Energy Standardization Act of 1997;

and H.R. 363, to amend section 2118 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to extend the Electric and Magnetic Fields Research and Public Information Dissemination Program; and to mark up the following bills: H.R. 651, to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of a hydroelectric project located in the State of Washington; and H.R. 652, to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for the construction of a hydroelectric project located in the State of Washington, 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, Subcommittee on Civil Service, hearing and markup of H.R. 240, Veterans' Employment Opportunity Act of 1997, 1:30 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs, and Criminal Justice, hearing on Civic Volunteers, Youth Service Organizations, and the War on Drugs, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on House Oversight, Task Force on Contested Election, hearing on the Forty Sixth Congressional District of California, 5 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on International Relations, hearing on New Thinking on Foreign Assistance, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, hearing on Engaging the Hermit Kingdom: U.S. Policy Toward North Korea, 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights, hearing on the Department of State Management Initiatives, 1:30 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property, hearing on the following: H.R. 400, 21st Century Patent System Improvement Act; H.R. 673, Patent and Trademark Office Surcharge Extension Act of 1997; and the Patent Term Restoration Act, 9 a.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Crime and the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth and Families of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, joint hearing on the following bills: H.R. 26, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide that the firearms prohibitions applicable by reason of a domestic violence misdemeanor conviction do not apply if the conviction occurred before the prohibitions became law; and H.R. 445, to provide that the firearms prohibitions applicable by reason of a domestic violence misdemeanor conviction do not apply to government entities, 10:15 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on National Security, hearing on defense reform, 9:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Procurement and the Subcommittee on Military Research and Development, joint hearing on Navy shipbuilding overview, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing on Whether the Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System Should be Required in Cargo Aircraft, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, to hold an organizational meeting; followed by a hearing on reauthorization of the State Boating Safety Grant Program, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Human Resources, hearing on Technical Corrections to Welfare Reform legislation, 2 p.m., B-318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Trade, hearing on the WTO Singapore Ministerial Meeting, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee, to hold hearings to examine the economic and budget outlook, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn Building.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of February 24 through February 28

House Chamber

Monday, the House was not in session.

Tuesday, Consideration of 1 Suspension: H.R. 668, Airport and Airway Trust Fund Tax Reinstatement Act of 1997.

Wednesday, Consideration of 2 Suspensions:

1. H.R. 624, Armored Car Reciprocity Amendments of 1997; and

2. H.R. 497, Bill to Repeal the Federal Charter of Group Hospitalization and Medical Services, Inc.; and

Vote on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 668, Airport and Airway Trust Fund Tax Reinstatement Act of 1997 (debated on Tuesday, February 25).

Thursday, Joint Meeting to receive His Excellency Eduardo Frei, President of the Republic of Chile.

Friday, no votes are expected.